

## Claims

1. A communications system comprising:
  - a first server having an electronic mail (e-mail) database for managing e-mail accounts, for storing radio device addresses associated with those accounts, and for storing electronic mail messages associated with those accounts wherein each message has a header and text;
  - a gateway connecting the first server to a two-way radio network;
  - a radio device having a electronic messaging application, the radio device being capable of two-way communication over the two-way radio network;
  - wherein the first server comprises message handling software arranged to send, to the radio device, a portion of a message of a predetermined size, including a header portion and a text portion.
- 15 2. The system of claim 1, wherein the radio device comprises a message generator and transmitter for generating a command and transmitting the command to the server over the two-way radio network to request a further portion of the text.
- 20 3. The system of claim 2 wherein the first server maintains a database of e-mail messages associated with e-mail account identifiers and the radio network comprises a second server maintaining a database of paging messages associated with pager addresses, and wherein the first server maintains a table correlating e-mail account identifiers with pager addresses.
- 25 4. The system of claim 1 wherein the radio devices comprises means for entering a filter parameter and sending a message to the first server including the filter parameter.

30

5. The system of claim 4, wherein the first server maintains filtering rules for selecting messages to be fed to the radio device according to a filtering parameter received from the radio device.

5 6. The system of claim 1 wherein the radio devices comprises means for entering a message length parameter and sending a message to the first server including the message length parameter.

10 7. The system of claim 6, wherein the first server maintains a message portion handling routine for feeding portions of messages to the radio device truncated in length according to the message length parameter.

15 8. The system of claim 1 wherein the first server further comprises means for generating a notification message for sending over the two-way radio network to a radio device having a given radio device address when a message is received at the server addressed to an e-mail account corresponding to that address.

20 9. A radio device having a control circuit and memory and, stored in the control circuit and memory, instructions and data which cause the control circuit to generate commands and send the commands over a radio network to a server, wherein the commands include commands to:

cause the server to feed messages to the radio device, and  
for a selected message, cause the server to send more of the selected  
25 message to the radio device.

10. A communications system comprising:
  - a private server to which one or more local terminals are couplable by wireline connection, the private server having an electronic mail (e-mail) database for managing e-mail accounts, for storing radio device addresses associated with those accounts, and for storing electronic mail messages associated with those accounts wherein each message has a header and text;
  - a gateway connecting the private server to a public two-way radio network;
- 10 a radio device having a electronic messaging application, the radio device being capable of two-way communication over the public two-way radio network;
  - wherein the server comprises message handling software arranged to:
    - (a) generate a notification message for sending over the public two-way radio network to a radio device having a given radio device address when a message is received at the server addressed to an e-mail account corresponding to that address; and
    - (b) send, to the radio device, a portion of the message of a predetermined size, including a header portion and a text portion.
- 15
- 20